

## THERAPY RULE PROVIDER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions	Answers
<b>1. What providers are affected under the therapy rule?</b>	Physical therapists (PT), occupational therapists (OT), and speech-language pathologists (SLP) are affected when located in outpatient hospitals, outpatient rehabilitation facilities, comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facilities, nursing facilities, developmental disability agencies, school-based services, independent practitioners, and home health agencies.
<b>2. When will the therapy rule be implemented?</b>	Therapists will be able to become Medicaid providers beginning June 1, 2008.
<b>3. What are the visit limitations for physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology?</b>	Participants are limited to 25 physical therapy visits, 25 occupational therapy visits, and/or 40 speech-language pathology visits per calendar year before a prior authorization is required.
<b>4. Are all provider types included in the visit limitations?</b>	School-based services are excluded from the visit limitations. Home Health will remain the same at 100 visits per calendar year, and will now include speech-language pathology services.
<b>5. How should school-based services and outpatient services be coordinated?</b>	School-based services are responsible for coordinating the plan of care with outpatient services. This coordination will eliminate the duplication of services.
<b>6. How can I obtain the therapy rules and other regulations?</b>	The easiest way to obtain Medicaid rules is at the Therapy Services webpage. You are also able to access rules at the state of Idaho Web site: <a href="http://www.accessidaho.org/">http://www.accessidaho.org/</a> . Under Laws and Rules, Administrative Code, Idaho Administrative Code, Department of Health and Welfare; The Therapy Rule is found in 16.03.09 (Basic Plan). DDA rules are found in 16.03.10 (Enhanced Plan).
<b>7. How do I become a Medicaid provider?</b>	A provider must be registered with a NPI number before completing a provider application. A provider enrollment application can be found at: <a href="http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3348/default.aspx">http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3348/default.aspx</a> . The “Healing Arts” application is required for PT, OT, and SLP. Enrollment packet should be returned to: EDS Provider Enrollment      Phone: 208-383-4310 PO Box 23      Toll free: 800-685-3757 Boise, ID 83707      Fax: 208-395-2198
<b>8. How do I enroll as a group</b>	You must first apply as an individual. All providers within a group practice are required to have

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<b>practice?</b>	individual provider numbers. Once all providers have a number, a group application may be completed.
<b>9. How do I submit a claim to Medicaid as a group practice?</b>	The services should be billed using the group provider number. The individual who provided the service is also required to include their individual provider number on the claim.
<b>10. Where can I find information on billing/claims? Who do I contact with billing questions?</b>	<p>The Medicaid Provider Handbook is an important resource for claims and billing information. It is found at: <a href="http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3438/default.aspx">http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3438/default.aspx</a>. Information for independent practitioners is under Section 3: Healing Arts.</p> <p><b>For specific claims questions, please contact Medicaid's fiscal agent, EDS, at: (800) 685-3757, or (208) 383-4310.</b></p>
<b>11. What is the reimbursement rate for independent practitioners? What is the rate for therapy assistants?</b>	<p>The reimbursement rate for independent PT, OT, and SLP is listed under Medicaid's numerical fee schedule, which is searched using CPT codes, and is found at: <a href="http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3502/default.aspx">http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3502/default.aspx</a>. The listed reimbursement rates include the services of a therapy assistant. Also, beginning June 2, 2008 there will be a specific Therapy Services Fee Schedule including a condensed list of CPT codes reimbursable for independent therapist, and is found at: <a href="http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/portal/alias_Rainbow/lang_en-US/tabID_3502/DesktopDefault.aspx">http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/portal/alias_Rainbow/lang_en-US/tabID_3502/DesktopDefault.aspx</a></p>
<b>12. Are therapy assistants allowed to bill Medicaid?</b>	No, a therapy assistant cannot bill Medicaid directly because they are not able to become a Medicaid provider.
<b>13. Who do I contact for policy questions?</b>	The Division of Medicaid, Medical Care Management Unit can answer specific policy questions. Please contact Jeanne Siroky at: 364-1897, or Lauren Brandau at: 364-1835.
<b>14. Who do I contact for prior authorization requests? How do I prior authorize visits?</b>	The Division of Medicaid, Medical Care Management Unit will be handling the prior authorizations for PT, OT, and SLP. Refer to the Healing Arts Provider Handbook for a complete description of documentation required for a PA. All requests may be faxed to: 332-7280, or contact Nicole Martin at: 364-1904.
<b>15. Do I have to be a Medicare provider?</b>	<p>You are required to be identified by Medicare as an independent practitioner prior to becoming enrolled as a Medicaid provider, with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If you are a pediatric therapist and will not see any Medicare participants, you are not required to obtain Medicare certification and will only be required to enroll as a Medicaid provider;</li> <li>▪ Speech-language pathologists are not identified by Medicare as independent practitioners, and therefore are only required to enroll as a Medicaid provider.</li> </ul>

Please submit questions for which no answer is provided above to: [BrandauL@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:BrandauL@dhw.idaho.gov)

We will develop answers to new questions as quickly as possible.